

27 October 2022, Thursday



DENR

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TITLE: _____

PAGE _____

DATE _____

DENR rolls out system to boost accounting of natural resources

By Joel dela Torre

THE Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) yesterday said it will undertake the formulation of a much-needed system for the accounting of the country's natural resources and environmental assets.

According to Secretary Maria Antoniya Yulo Loyzaga, DENR will be joined by the National Economic and Devel-

opment Authority (NEDA) and Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) in creating the natural capital accounting system.

Loyzaga said the creation will significantly support the development of strategies for a science-based, risk-informed, ethical and equitable stewardship of the environment, which she strongly espouses in the Department.

Loyzaga pointed out that

the system will provide an enabling platform for the DENR and other government agencies to come up with specific policies and programs that integrate climate change adaptation in various economic, fiscal, social, political and environment decisions.

"What we need to do is apply a climate-risk lens to the work of the DENR, which means that climate and disaster-risk assessments will become part of the processes that

we will undertake," Loyzaga stressed.

In a 2022 report by the World Risk Index, the Philippines was ranked first out of 193 countries on the list of global disaster risk hotspots.

Loyzaga explained that the country's vulnerability to natural hazards is due to its physical exposure as well as its inability and lack of capacity in adopting climate change tools and technologies.



PH needs to put the brakes on the gas

LAST week, two environmental groups filed complaints with the Environmental Management Board of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR-EMB) against two liquefied natural gas (LNG) power projects in Batangas City, asking for the revocation of the projects' environmental compliance certificates (ECC). I am generally skeptical of these kinds of complaints, not because they're not right — they almost always are — but because the derision with which they are typically treated by the DENR and other relevant parts of the establishment makes them a poor tactic with which to effect change, or prevent something disastrous from happening.

While I am likely to be regarded as a cynic for saying it out loud, I fully expect these latest complaints to have no positive results. That is not how things should be, of course, but that is the continuing reality; whatever else is in the DENR's mandate, its number one priority for as long as anyone can remember has been not to pose obstacles to commercial progress.

The one time anyone dared to try to change that was when former president Duterte made one of his very few truly admirable decisions and appointed the late Gina Lopez to head the department. All that resulted in was the Commission on Appointments taking the almost unheard-of step of actually rejecting her appointment a couple of months later, as those who pull the strings and move the levers of this country were hysterically anxious to be rid of her. The current Environment secretary, who has excelled at being silent and invisible enough to give some people the impression that her post is yet another one that has gone unfilled by President Marcos, certainly poses no threat to business as usual.



ROUGH TRADE

**BEN
KRITZ**

That is going to have very bad consequences for the country very soon, almost certainly within the next six months, because the two projects the environmental groups are trying to stop are part of an incredibly shortsighted policy drive, one which is going to cause an energy and economic crisis that will make 2020 look like a sunny day in the park.

The two groups concerned are Protect the Verde Island Passage (Protect VIP) and the Center for Energy, Ecology and Development (CEED), and the targets of their complaints are the planned LNG onshore import terminal facility in Batangas City to be built by the Singapore-based Atlantic, Gulf & Pacific International Holdings-Linseed (AG&P-Linseed) consortium, and the 1.75-gigawatt (GW) LNG-fired power plant being constructed in the area by San Miguel Corp.-Excellent Energy Resources Inc. (SMC-EERI). In their press statement, the environmental groups said that the projects pose a threat to the biodiversity of the Verde Island Passage area and the livelihood of the people who depend on it.

That is a bit vague, but fortunately the actual complaints do provide some hard specifics. The ECCs of the projects are invalid and should be revoked, the groups said, because first, the companies are carrying out construction without having obtained the necessary clearances for removal of coconut trees by the Philippine Coconut Authority (PCA); second, neither company has obtained the required tree-cutting permit (for other kinds of trees, obviously) from the DENR, implying that the DENR-EMB broke its own rules in issuing the



TITLE :

PAGE

112

DATE



■ AG&P's liquefied natural gas (LNG) terminal under construction in Batangas. AG&P PHOTO

ECCs in the first place; and finally, that neither company has obtained a land conversion order from the Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR), which is also a prerequisite for an ECC. This last point carries the most weight, as the DAR already issued a cease-and-desist order for that very reason against AG&P-Linseed and SMC-EERI on August 8, although that has evidently not even slowed them down.

Meanwhile, the gas rush in Batangas continues unabated; there are about 15 projects in the works, of which at least six are in advanced stages of development, including the two mentioned above, AG&P-Linseed's floating component (a converted gas carrier) of its LNG terminal project expected to be operational in the first quarter of next year, and a similar floating terminal by the Lopez Group's First Gen Corp. that is expected to be up and running by next July.

The primary reason for all this activity, of course, is that the one significant resource that keeps the Philippines from being completely import-dependent for energy, the Malampaya Gas Field, is about to be exhausted; its production is already declining and will run out completely sometime in 2024 or 2025. Proponents of gas power will sometimes make the feeble argument that gas is environmentally preferable to coal, which it is, but only in the same sense that having chronic bleeding ulcers is preferable to having stomach can-

cer. The real problem is that five major power plants totaling 3,200 megawatts (MW) of capacity have relied on Malampaya's gas, and no serious effort to develop a fallback position for when the gas field inevitably ran out was undertaken until the past year or two.

The Philippines' painting itself into a corner and leaving no option but to increase its import reliance just to keep the power plants it already has in operation is bad enough, but imports will even increase with the expected opening of the SMC-EERI plant and others. And this is coming at a time when the head of the International Energy Agency Fatih Birol is publicly sounding the alarm (per a Reuters report on Tuesday) that the world is about to experience its "first global energy crisis," largely due to skyrocketing gas prices and waning supplies.

Stopping the gas rush is going to result in a great deal of misery as well, as the power deficit will quickly catch up with us. But doing that and implementing more secure solutions will at least make that pain relatively short-lived. Tying the country's energy needs to even more expensive imports of uncertain reliability will ensure that the pain goes on and on. The logic of the policy behind that frankly escapes me, and within a few months' time, everyone else will be wondering the same thing.

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INQUIRER

A1
PAGE

UPPER
 LOWER

PAGE 1
STORY

BANNER
STORY

EDITORIAL

CARTOON

70-27-22

TITLE :

PAGE

1/2

DATE

SCORES INJURED IN 6.4 LUZON QUAKE

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10-27-22

TITLE:

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PAGE

2/2

DATE

43 hurt as quake hits north Luzon anew

Magnitude 6.4 temblor comes 3 months after intense ground shaking devastated Abra, Ilocos provinces; heritage structures, houses damaged

By the Inquirer Staff
@Team_Inquirer

BAGUIO CITY—The strong earthquake that jolted Abra province late Tuesday night left at least 43 people hurt and again damaged cultural structures, similar to the impact of the magnitude 7 temblor that struck northern Luzon three months ago.

The Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology on Wednesday said the earthquake at 10:59 p.m. Tuesday was initially measured at magnitude 6.7 but this reading was later revised and pegged at magnitude 6.4. Its epicenter was located 33 kilometers northwest of Lagayan town.

President Marcos on Wednesday assured that there was enough food and shelter for residents affected by the earthquake, which was also felt in the Ilocos provinces and parts of the Cordillera and Cagayan Valley regions.

"We do not have a critical problem when it comes to food. Maybe, shelter—that is the most important part of the relief that we have to provide now for the people affected by the earthquake last night," the President told reporters at the sidelines of the National Information Summit 2022 at Manila Hotel.

Citing reports he received, Mr. Marcos said affected families were asking for tents as they fear for their safety due to possible aftershocks.

Initial reports showed that about 100 houses in Abra and Ilocos Norte were damaged by the quake.

Assistant Secretary Bernardo Rafaelito Alejandro IV, spokesperson for the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC), said 466 aftershocks were recorded as of Wednesday afternoon, with only a few felt by residents in affected areas.



AFTERMATH Debris is scattered in front of the photo gallery building dedicated to the late former President Ferdinand Marcos Sr. in Batac City, Ilocos Norte, on Wednesday, a day after a magnitude 6.4 earthquake hit northern LUZON. —AFP/AMABLE STEPHEN TITAN ABELLON

In Ilocos Norte, Gov. Matthew Marcos Manotoc said reports reaching the provincial government showed that at least 38 residents were hurt after they were hit by debris as the ground was shaking.

In Abra, the Department of Health said at least five people were hurt, including two children, in the villages of Pulot and Collago in Lagayan.

The Abra provincial government, however, listed six injuries, three of them recorded in the towns of San Juan, Daguioman and San Quintin. No further details had been made available at press time.

State of calamity eyed

Ilocos Norte is currently under a state of calamity as it is yet to recover from the impact of Typhoon "Neneng" (international name: Nesat) which hit the province on Oct. 16.

Manotoc said he would ask the provincial board to declare another state of calamity due to the earthquake.

In Abra, the quake also damaged buildings, including 58

schools, town halls and the Nuestra Señora de La Paz, one of the oldest churches of the Iglesia Filipina Independiente (or the Aglipayan Church) located in La Paz town.

Abra Gov. Dominic Valera suspended classes and work throughout the province in anticipation of aftershocks that continued on Wednesday afternoon.

'Further damage'

Tuesday's quake caused "further damage" to cultural properties in Vigan City, Ilocos Sur, hit by the July earthquake, according to acting Mayor Randy Singson, citing an initial assessment from the city DRRMC.

The July 27 quake, which also had its epicenter in Abra, damaged important cultural properties and ancestral houses, including a 16th century cathedral at the heart of Vigan's heritage district and an ancient watchtower in neighboring Bantay town.

The city government said government buildings would be closed until further notice to pave the way for a "holistic evaluation of structural integrity" of public infrastructure in the city.

In a separate executive order on Wednesday, Ilocos Sur Gov. Jeremias Singson said private establishments in the province could resume operations provided that their buildings were "duly certified as physically fit for work activities" by their local engineering offices.

In Ilocos Norte, authorities also conducted an assessment of cultural properties, including the famous Sinking Bell Tower in Laoag City, which was also damaged during the July earthquake.

Laoag Mayor Michael Keon, who led the inspection on Wednesday, said that the tower sustained "more damage" from Tuesday's earthquake.

He said that "retrofitting must be done as soon as possible" as he vowed to preserve the tower, which he described as a "symbol" of the city.

"The two earthquakes have weakened the structure of the tower," Keon added.

Also in Ilocos Norte, the centuries-old Sta. Monica Parish Church in Sarrat town was also damaged, with bricks falling from inside the church and its belfry.

The Civil Aviation Authority of the Philippines said there was no damage at the Laoag International Airport, but flight operations would remain suspended until Thursday.

The earthquake cut power supply in Abra and nearby provinces, according to the Department of Energy (DOE).

In a report, the DOE said the Abra Electric Cooperative was experiencing partial power interruption affecting the towns of Bangued, Tineg and Tayum.

No power plants or transmission lines were damaged by the quake, the DOE said. —REPORTS FROM VINCENT CABREZA, JOHN MICHAEL MUGAS, JEROME ANING, ABBY BOISER AND JOF DEENE B. LAGARE INQ



FOCUS ON ABRA AFTER BIG QUAKE

PRESIDENT Ferdinand R. Marcos yesterday assured the public that concerned government agencies are closely monitoring Abra and nearby provinces hit by a strong quake.

"We're all monitoring," Marcos said in a chance interview at the Manila Hotel after a magnitude 6.4 earthquake jolted Lagayan town in Abra province on Tuesday evening.

Marcos said the government is focused on assisting affected individuals by providing them with food and temporary shelter.

"We do not have the critical problem when it comes to food and shelter. That is the most important part of the relief that we have provided now for the people affected by the earthquake," he said.

The strong quake struck Abra and was felt in nearby areas, including Ilocos Norte and Ilocos Sur.

The quake has so far generated 409 aftershocks as of 10 a.m. Wednesday. At least 81 of the recorded aftershocks were plotted or located, and five were felt.

Marcos, in a Twitter

post, said the departments of Public Works, Social Welfare, Energy, and Local Government are now assessing the situation in quake-hit areas and are ready to help the affected individuals.

"As aftershocks continue, we remain in coordination with DPWH for the inspection of roads and buildings, DSWD for relief, DOE for outages and DILG for monitoring," Marcos said.

Marcos also called on the public to stay safe and vigilant.

"Everyone is advised to

keep out of tall structures," he said.

Marcos said he is also monitoring the developments in Abra and other areas hit by the quake.

At least five persons were hurt after the strong earthquake rocked Abra and nearby provinces in Luzon, according to the initial report released by the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council on Wednesday morning.

Damage to infrastructures and houses, as well as power interruptions, were also reported. PNA



Magnitude 6.4 quake

hits Abra, 11 hurt

By Jane Eleda

A MAGNITUDE 6.4 earthquake on Tuesday night struck Abra injuring at least 11 people, the Provincial Disaster Risk Reduction Management Office (PDRRMO) said yesterday.

PDRRMO officer-in-charge Arnel Valdez told a radio interview that six of the injured were from Lagayan town, one from

San Quintin while three from San Juan.

In a report posted on the Facebook page of the province, one was also injured from Daguioman municipality.

Valdez said some of those hurt were hit by falling debris during the earthquake.

The Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology said the quake, which was tectonic

in origin, occurred at 10:59 p.m. on Tuesday.

The epicenter of the tremor was 9 kms. northwest of Lagayan town.

Phivolcs said as of 2 p.m. yesterday, the quake generated 466 aftershocks.

The PDRRMO OIC said some churches, including the old church in Lapaza, and municipal halls were affected by the tremor.

A belfry of the chapel of the Philippine Independent Church collapsed due to the earthquake.

"Initially po, nung July 27, 'yung unang earthquake dito po sa Abra nagkaroon po ng crack itong simbahan natin. Pero ngayon po, bumagsak na 'yung belfry natin tsaka lumaki po 'yung ibang crack sa loob," Philippine Independent

Church parish priest Father Christian Edward Abao said.

Landslides were reported along Abra-Kalinga road, Abra-Ilocos Norte road and in Tubo, Abra.

Classes and government offices in the province were suspended.

Abra Vice Gov. Joy Bernos said affected residents temporarily sought refuge on tents places out-

side the homes of the affected families.

According to the provincial government, 52 families from Tubo town were displaced by the quake.

A total of six houses in Lagayan were destroyed, while 40 others in Dilong, Tubo, San Quintin and Tineg were partially damaged.

Bernos said Lagayan Mayor Edmarc Crisologo

reported that the water system in his municipality was damaged, affecting 1,674 residents.

She said potable water is now being delivered to the affected residents.

Last July 27, a magnitude 7 earthquake hit Tayum, Abra that left 11 people dead and 609 others injured, including those from the Ilocos Region, Cagayan Valley, and the Cordilleras.



TITLE: _____

PAGE _____

DATE _____



Magnitude ...

(From Page 1)

It was initially measured at magnitude 6.7 but was later revised to magnitude 6.4.

Phivolcs said the quake originated 7 kilometers (km) northeast of the municipality of Lagayan in Abra province at 10:59 p.m.

The earthquake was felt at Intensity VI (very strong) in La Paz, Abra and Banna, Batac City, Carasi, Dingras, Laoag City, and Sarrat in Ilocos Norte.

Moreover, it was felt at Intensity V (strong) in Bangued, Boliney, Bucay, Bucloc, Daguioman, Danglas, Dolores, Lacub, Lagangilang, Lagayan, Langiden, Licuan-Baay, Luba, Malibcong, Manabo, Peñarrubia, Pidigan, Pilar, Sallapadan, San Isidro, San Juan, San Quintin, Tayum, Tineg, Tubo, and Villaviciosa in Abra; Conner, Apayao; La Trinidad and Munkayan in Benguet; Rizal, Kalinga; Barlig, Bauko, Sabangan, Sadanga, Sagada, and Tadian in Mountain Province; Alilem, Banayoyo, Bantay, Burgos, Cabugao, City

of Candon, Caoayan, Cervantes, Galimuyod, Gregorio del Pilar, Lidlidda, Magsingal, Nagbukel, Narvacan, Quirino, Salcedo, San Emilio, San Esteban, San Hdefonso, San Juan, San Vicente, Santa, Santa Catalina, Santa Cruz, Santa Lucia, Santa Maria, Santiago, Santo Domingo, Sigay, Sinit, Sugpon, Suyo, Tagudin, and City of Vigan in Ilocos Sur; Bacnotan, Balaogan, Bauang, Caba, City of San Fernando, and Suridpen in La Union; and Abulug, Allacapan, Amulung, Aparri, Baggao, Claveria, Lal-Lo, Lasam, Peñablanca, Tuao, and Tuguegarao City in Cagayan.

The tremor was "moderately strong" at Intensity IV in Flora and Santa Marcela in Apayao; Baguio City; Atok, Bokod, Buguias, Sablan, Tuba, Tublay, and Itogon in Benguet; Bontoc, Natonin, and Paracelis in Mountain Province; Bangar, San Juan, and Santol in La Union; and Buguey, Enrile, Iguig, Sanchez-Mira, Santa Praxedes, and Solana in Cagayan.

Meanwhile, it was felt at Intensity III (weak) in Calanasan, Apayao; Lagawe and Mayoyao in Ifugao; Laoac, City of Urdaneta, City of Dagupan, and Villasis in Pangasinan; Alicia, Isabela;

Baler, Aurora; and Pura and Ramos in Tarlac.

It was "slightly felt" at Intensity II in Labrador, Pangasinan; San Manuel, Isabela; and Emban, Camiling, and Paniquin in Tarlac.

Phivolcs' instruments also recorded the tremor at Intensity V in Gonzaga, Peñablanca, and Claveria in Cagayan; Pasuquin and Laoag City in Ilocos Norte; and Vigan City in Ilocos Sur.

It was also recorded at Intensity IV in Bangued, Abra and Intensity III in Baler, Aurora and Ilagan, Isabela.

The earthquake was registered at Intensity II in Bayombong in Nueva Vizcaya, Urdaneta City and Dagupan City in Pangasinan, and Madella in Quirino.

It was also recorded at Intensity I in Dinalupihan, Bataan; Bulacan, Calumpit, Malolos City, and Plaridel in Bulacan; Pasig City; Navotas City; Cabanatuan City and San Jose in Nueva Ecija; Guagua, Pampanga; Umingan, Sison, Bolinao, Infanta, and Bani in Pangasinan; Polillo, Mauban, and Infanta in Quezon; Tanay and Taytay in Rizal; Ramos, Tarlac; and Iba, Zambales.



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B15
PAGE

UPPER
 LOWER

PAGE 1
STORY

BANNER
STORY

EDITORIAL

CARTOON

80-27-22

III

PAGE

DATE

Bulacan quarrying resumes anew

BY JONAS REYES

MALOLOS CITY, Bulacan – Bulacan Governor Daniel Fernando temporarily withdrew his Executive Order 21 to allow mining and quarrying operations in the province of Bulacan that started on Wednesday.

Fernando – in a meeting with company owners and stakeholders in the mining and quarrying sector – explained that the temporary withdrawal of the EO was to give way for employers and employees to reform the industry.

He added that the ban – which started in August – was a chance for the government to apprehend

various illegal activities in the mining and quarrying industry of Bulacan, stressing that with the opening of the two industries, the provincial government will enact the One Strike Police to ensure that stakeholders will follow the regulations set by the Capitol regarding their operation.

The provincial government will be stringent in the Kabit System, an illegal method wherein a company that does not have a permit for mining or quarrying can use another company's permit, license and receipt to conduct business.

A thorough checking of trucks used in mining and quarrying will be conducted to ensure that they are carrying the appropriate load declared in their

delivery receipts and transport slips.

Having delivery receipts and transport slips are valid per trip and cannot be used again.

Trucks should be registered by the Bulacan Environment and Natural Resources Office aside from regularly registered at the Land Transportation Office, while trucks with modifications or extensions that cause overloading will not be registered, with the governor citing that these trucks destroy the roads in Bulacan.

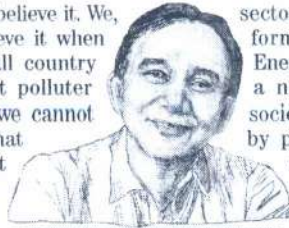
Safeguards, signage and safety precautions should be complete and easily be seen at the mining and quarrying area to prevent accidents and ensure the safety of the workers.



Moving towards decarbonization

In 2015, the government announced an ambitious target of cutting the country's GHG emissions by 75 percent by 2030 on the condition the Philippines would get funding support abroad

Many could not believe it. We, too, could not believe it when they said our small country is the 35th largest polluter in the world, but we cannot dispute it since that is the official report of the Department of Energy. Yet we are the fifth worst affected by climate change over the last 20 years.



BEYOND THE HORIZON
CAPT. JESS MORALES

This is the reason the Philippines has recognized the importance of avoiding the increase of and, if possible reducing, greenhouse gas emissions which are mainly carbon dioxide and smaller amounts of methane and nitrous oxide gases that are released during the combustion of fossil fuels such as coal and oil.

To curb GHG emissions, the government has enacted an array of laws and policies to promote decarbonization. One of them is the Climate Change Act of 2009 which led to a National Framework Strategy in 2010 and an Action Plan on Climate Change in 2011, which emphasizes the promotion of energy efficiency, renewable energy, and sustainable transport systems, gradually reducing dependence on fossil-based fuels.

Yet we are the fifth worst affected by climate change over the last 20 years.

This was followed by setting ambitious goals for the use of renewable power that are outlined in the 2010 National Renewable Energy Program. In 2015, the government announced an ambitious target of cutting the country's GHG emissions by 75 percent by 2030 on the condition the Philippines would get funding support abroad. Of the target, 72.29 percent would be achieved through the support of climate finance, technologies, and capacity development provided by developed countries, as prescribed by the United Nations Paris Agreement. The remaining 2.71 percent of the target should be implemented mainly through domestic resources.

The target is the Philippines' share in the implementation of the Paris Agreement, which it ratified in 2017. The agreement aims to help countries mitigate climate change effects through financial assistance with the long-term goal of limiting the rise of global temperature to below 2 °C (3.6 °F).

To help achieve the ambitious yet well-intentioned target, the government has forged a partnership with the private sector involved in the energy

sector, paving the way for the formation of the Philippine Energy Efficiency Alliance Inc., a non-stock, non-profit civil society organization convened by private- and public-sector energy efficiency market stakeholder entities.

PE2's objectives of organizing, encouraging, and promoting advocacies, initiatives, studies, projects, programs, policy directions, financing strategies, best ethical practices, and sources of energy efficiency, energy conservation, and renewable energy are all aimed at assisting the Philippines in achieving its long-term targets of reducing GHG emissions, increasing renewal energy productivity, and increasing energy security.

Members of the PE2 are considered as "ESCO" or Energy Service Company, a business enterprise that develops, installs, and finances projects designed to improve energy efficiency and reduce operations and maintenance costs for its customers' facilities.

ESCOs generally act as project developers for a wide range of tasks and assume the technical and performance risk associated with the project, they provide much-needed power engineering expertise, enabling power investors to concentrate more on their core business as well as assist in budget stabilization, reducing risks in the market while implementing energy efficiency improvements,

The good news is that PE2 has officially welcomed the Philippine Association of Coastal and Inland Water Ferries Inc. as its newest Associate (D) Member in its bid to extend its advocacies to the maritime sector. PACIWFI became one of the potential ESCOs on 18 October 2022.

PACIWFI, whose members are owners/operators of short-distance ferries, is the first PE2 member coming from the maritime industry which is widely considered to be one of the major sources of GHG emissions.

Perhaps one important factor that merited PACIWFI's invitation to join PE2 is the association's pioneering efforts to introduce new energy-efficient technologies for the propulsion system for coastal and inland ferry boats.

A strong advocate of modernization of the country's domestic shipping, PACIWFI is now exploring the use of electric propulsion systems among its members as the group's humble contribution to decarbonization and achieving the country's long-term target to reduce GHG emissions.

We will share more on that in the next issue.



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PAGE

UPPER
 LOWER

PAGE 1
STORY

BANNER
STORY

EDITORIAL

CARTOON

20-27-22

TITLE:

PAGE

1/2

DATE

COP27 faces uncertainty, flip-flops in climate diplomacy

First word

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**YEN
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and deniers are sardonically amused by the headaches bugging the big plans in November of the UN climate movement.

Climate summitry, which once seemed automatic every year, faces an existential test next month when the United Nations convenes COP27 from November 6 to 16 in Egypt.

The Interpress Service (IPS), the global news agency headquartered in Rome, has published a report that openly asks whether climate summits are a waste of time.

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COP27 faces uncertainty, flip-flops in climate diplomacy

Attendance in the summit has been dimmed by high profile cancellations. King Charles 3rd, an otherwise reliable environment nut, scrapped his plans to attend COP27 after the UK prime minister objected. Vladimir Putin announced his decision not to go without lifting his foot off the pedal in his invasion of Ukraine. Joe Biden is bracing for US mid-term elections on November 8, which his party is projected to lose. All Europe is totally absorbed by a continent-wide energy crisis fueled by Putin's shutdown of energy supply.

It will be mainly the poor developing nations that will supply the warm bodies and personages for the conference.

Similarly, climate change diplomacy, which last year bragged about a \$100 billion fund for the climate projects of developing countries, is caught in a quagmire, says the *Wall Street Journal*, because rich countries are renegeing on their pledges to contribute to the fund and poor countries are pressing for "climate justice."

It's not fun being a climate alarmist these days. It makes more sense to retreat into silence, like Al Gore, the erstwhile pope of global warming.

Climate summitry a waste of time?

The UN, on Secretary-General Antonio Guterres' lead, will doubtless persist in convening COP27 regardless of the many complications and unfavorable global situation.

Media analysts have started a drum roll on a busted summit in Egypt. COP27 will take place in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt next month. Last year it was in Glasgow. Next year it will be held in Dubai.

IPS issued a prognosis on COP27 that raised the question whether climate summits are "a waste of time." I quote key passages from Felix Dodds and Chris Spence's report because they present an overview of the history of the COP.

"...And yet the COPs are only the tip of the proverbial iceberg when it comes to UN-sponsored climate meetings.

"If you add the several preparatory meetings in the lead-up to the COPs, plus a host of workshops and other events by various expert technical groups, you're easily looking at several

dozen gatherings every year.

"Each event is supposed to help us move the needle on climate change...But what, exactly, do all these many meetings accomplish? Are they really worth all this time and effort?"

"There are plenty of arguments against letting the climate circus continue its endless circuit. For a start, science tells us that in spite of all the many meetings held, we're still on a dangerous path. Groups like Carbon Action Tracker estimate that we're currently on track for somewhere between 1.8 and 2.7 C, with the lower number representing their most optimistic — and least likely — scenario...

"Another common complaint is that UN climate COPs are mostly just talking shops; in Greta Thunberg's words, too much 'blah, blah, blah' and not enough action. For all the millions, even billions, of words uttered at these events, they can often end in acrimony with little of substance agreed. Surely, the money used to hold these summits could be better spent on something else?"

"Even when agreement is reached, say the critics, there is no guarantee governments and other stakeholders will keep their pledges. History is littered with broken promises and diplomatic treaties that aren't worth the paper they're written on.

"But here's the thing. For all their weaknesses and flaws, these summits actually matter a lot.

"First, the United Nations climate process has definitely moved the needle when it comes to our response to climate change. When the UN climate treaty was first signed in 1992, it triggered a wave of national laws, policies and regulations that have rippled out across every country on Earth...

"Take our global energy systems, for instance.

"From electric vehicles to power generation to building design, the number of changes catalyzed by our international work on climate change are too many to list. Probably the best metric for judging the UN climate summits, however, is their impact on long-term global warming.

"In recent years, projections for the expected long-term warming have fallen from as much as 4 to 6 C before the Paris Agreement was inked, to around 1.8 to 2.7 C now, assuming we implement pledges made at UN summits.

"This, they say, would render the climate crisis more manageable, reduce the carbon footprint, and make it less of a 'circus'."

Climate change diplomacy quagmire

The *Wall Street Journal* published on October 10 an opinion piece by Walter Russell Mead titled "The quagmire of climate change diplomacy."

Mead contends that the Biden administration has sent mixed messages with its climate policy. And it isn't the only one sending mixed climate messages.

"The [Biden] administration took office vowing to make Saudi Arabia a pariah nation and to reduce the world's dependence on fossil fuels. After a brief fist-bumping détente last summer, he is back on the attack because the Saudis don't want to produce as much oil as he wants. Meanwhile, even as it prays for a global energy transition, the Biden administration is scouring the world for new sources of carbon-spewing fossil fuels, relaxing sanctions enforcement against the murdering mullahs in Tehran and looking to steer new revenue into the coffers of the crime lords of Caracas.

"Mr. Biden isn't the only one sending mixed climate messages. Across the European Union, frantic ministers are reopening coal plants, subsidizing the price of fossil fuels to consumers and otherwise doing everything to heave as much carbon into the atmosphere this winter as they possibly can.

"Energy disruption owing to Vladimir Putin's war on Ukraine is the immediate cause of the gyrations and flip-flops among climate-focused policymakers, but a larger problem is at work. Integrating climate policy into international diplomacy is hard. Take Mr. Biden's frustration with Saudi Arabia. The old US-Saudi partnership was not based only on security. When it came to oil prices, the Saudis were traditionally among the less hawkish members of the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries. With more than a century of reserves in the ground, the Saudis cared about the long-term health of the oil market. They feared that aggressive pricing would encourage customers to find substitutes for oil and undermine producers in the long run.

"The Biden administration's embrace of a rapid shift from

fossil fuels changes calculations in Riyadh. If the oil market is going to dry up by 2050, the Saudis turn into price hawks, wanting the highest possible price for the limited amount of oil they will be able to sell. And if the American president is leading the charge to kill the world oil market, there is not much reason for the Saudis to help him out of a political jam.

"But there is more. World peace is more closely entwined with energy markets than many climate activists understand. China knows that an attack on Taiwan would result in an immediate halt to energy imports from the Middle East as naval blockades interdict strategic imports.

"Climate diplomacy is also widening the potentially explosive divide between wealthy nations and the poorer countries of what is often called the Global South...

"Already global climate talks risk deadlock over the cost of the energy transition. The less-industrialized countries of the Global South argue with some reason that they need help to manage the shift and have settled on what some might call the suspiciously large and suspiciously round number of \$100 billion a year as their price for cooperation with Western climate plans.

"That \$100 billion is just a start. The Global South is raising the possibility of 'loss and damage' payments. Newly industrializing and developing countries are not responsible for the global warming we experience today, their diplomats say. If climate change is causing floods and droughts across the Global South, shouldn't the northern countries pay for the damage their past emissions are causing?"

"American taxpayers are unlikely to sympathize with demands to send an ever-escalating series of payments to foreign 'victims of climate change.'"

Rethink junketing plans

Consequently, Filipino bureaucrats and legislators, are well-advised to scratch their plans to turn COP27 into an excuse for junketing at the public's expense.

The straitened fiscal position of the government today, thanks to heavy borrowings under President Duterte, will absolutely stop profligacy in the use of public money.



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3
PAGE

UPPER
 LOWER

PAGE 1
STORY

BANNER
STORY

EDITORIAL

CARTOON

10-27-22

TITLE: _____

PAGE _____

DATE _____

Major firms urge gov'ts to require disclosures on nature

OVER 330 businesses on Wednesday urged world leaders to force large companies to assess and disclose their impact on nature by 2030, ahead of the COP15 global talks on biodiversity in December.

Signatories of the COP15 Business Statement, which include GSK, H&M Group and Nestlé and which have combined annual revenues of more than \$1.5 trillion, said the world needed to move past voluntary reporting rules.

"Improving the health of our planet requires bold, decisive action from policymakers and businesses. Some progress has been made, but it's not enough,"

Rebecca Marmot, chief sustainability officer at consumer goods company Unilever said.

While regulators have pushed for more rigorous reporting on the companies' environmental impact and efforts to battle climate change, broader impact on nature and biodiversity has not yet been subject to similar scrutiny.

The COP15 talks in Montreal will see countries try to agree a new Global Biodiversity Framework to combat the crisis that threatens over one million plant and animal species with extinction.

Currently, about 17% of the world's land is protected, according to a 2021 report by the World

Economic Forum, and just 7% of the global ocean is under some sort of conservation scheme.

"Assessment and disclosure are an essential first step to generate action, but it will only have an impact if it is made mandatory," the 330 businesses said in their statement.

Vice-Chairman of Roche Holdings Andre Hoffmann said "nature recovery is within our grasp, provided we all act now," while the joint statement "shows the extensive support from major businesses for an ambitious global deal for nature".

Unilever, for instance, said it had committed to a deforestation-free supply chain by 2023,

implying that its palm oil, paper and board, tea, soy and cocoa will not come from areas where natural ecosystems have been converted into farmland.

So far, though, rules are largely voluntary, meaning many corporations do not report, or do so in a patchy way that can make it hard for investors and other stakeholders to compare and assess their impact on the planet and hold them to account.

"Without this information, we are flying blind into extinction," Eva Zabey, executive director at global coalition Business for Nature, said. — **Reuters**



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III

PAGE

DATE

Go: Solons' visit boosts France ties

BY LADE KABAGANI
@tribunephil_Lade

The parliamentary visit of the Filipino Senate delegation in Paris is an open opportunity for the Philippines and France to deepen and strengthen their bilateral relations, Senator Christopher Lawrence "Bong" Go said Wednesday. **Turn to page A2**

Go: Solons' visit boosts France ties

From page 1

Go, with other Filipino senators, met with their counterparts in France – including French National Assembly and Economic Affairs Committee chair Guillaume Kasbarian, French Senator Daniel Gremillet, and members of the Atomic Energy Commission – on 25 October (Paris time) to discuss further improvement of bilateral ties between the Philippines and the European country.

This is part of the inter-parliamentary exchanges between both countries – which also coincides with the 75th anniversary of the establishment

of Philippine-French diplomatic relations.

The delegation also attended the French-South East Asian Friendship Group meeting presided over by French Senators Mathieu Darnaud and Gisèle Jourda.

Go said the parliamentary visit will pave the way to further exploration of opportunities for greater collaboration, particularly in terms of renewable energy, climate change, economic development, and food security, among others.

"It is my sincere desire that during this parliamentary visit, we will be able to identify areas of cooperation that will lead to even closer ties

between our two nations," he said.

Go, who also chairs the Senate Committee on Health, said the visit can be an avenue to thank the French government for its crucial contributions to the Philippines amid the prevailing Covid-19 pandemic.

France was among the European countries that actively donated millions of Covid-19 jabs to Filipinos through the COVAX facility at the height of the global health crisis.

The senator underscored that France's assistance has greatly helped the Philippines to further boost its national Covid-19 vaccination program.

"I would like to express my gratitude to the French government for donating

Covid-19 vaccines to the Philippines during the height of the pandemic," Go said. "Filipinos will forever be grateful to you for this act of kindness, which went a long way toward ensuring the success of our vaccination program and the safety of our citizens against the threat of Covid-19."

New cooperation opportunities

Go is also optimistic that the parliamentary visit will help enhance the country's crafting of legislation designed to safeguard more Filipinos against the impact of global climate change.

"Because of (the Philippines') geographical location in the Pacific, the country is battered by an average of 20 typhoons a year, resulting in significant casualties and increasing damage to property," he said.

During the 19th Congress, Go reiterated the need for the country to establish a Department of Disaster Resilience – seeking unified risk mitigation and rehabilitation efforts during calamities and emergencies.

Meanwhile, Go said the Philippines is committed to further flourishing and nurturing its bilateral ties with France.

"We hope that the excellent rapport between our two Senates will intensify and be at the heart of the flourishing relations between our two countries. The Philippines is for France a privileged partner in the Indo-Pacific, with which we have the vocation to develop new cooperation projects," he said.

Among other Filipino legislators who joined the parliamentary visit are Senate President Juan Miguel Zubiri, Senate President Pro Tempore Loren Legarda, Senate Majority Leader Joel Villanueva, Senate Deputy Majority Leader Joseph Victor Ejercito, and Senators Manuel Lapid, Maria Lourdes Binay and Grace Poe.



PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY OF SBG

SENATOR Christopher 'Bong' Go is among a Senate delegation on an official visit to France to boost bilateral cooperation. With him are Senate President Migz Zubiri, Senate Pro Tempore Loren Legarda, Senate Majority Leader Joel Villanueva, Senate Deputy Leader JV Ejercito, Senators Lito Lapid, Grace Poe and Nancy Binay.



AIIB to dedicate 50% of loans to climate change projects

THE Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) said it will reserve at least 50% of its loan portfolio to climate change mitigation projects by 2025.

"We focus on 50% and upwards for financing of climate change adaptation and mitigation by 2025. This is the most important part given the urgency of climate change. Times have now changed. We need to be nimble and (anticipate) the emerging energy crisis. Many countries are vulnerable, experiencing acute macroeconomic distress," AIIB President Jin Liqun said in a virtual briefing on Wednesday.

"We are going to help countries reduce their emissions so they can reach their net zero goal as early as possible. Our focus has very much remained on the most important challenges faced by society," he added.

Beijing-based AIIB is building an operating hub in Abu Dhabi, its first overseas office.

"Global problems require global solutions. With a portfolio of 191 projects in over 30 countries, our rapid growth is the catalyst for opening an office that brings our bank closer to the front lines. The AIIB hub provides proximity to global financial centers," Mr. Jin said.

"The first hub would help us gain experience and inform decision-making in the future. Future hubs would have to be decided by experience and needs of our clients. The hub can help reach out to the private sector and we are also working very hard to mobilize private sector investors by participating in capital markets in many countries," he added.

Mr. Jin said the bank is working to accelerate the financing of infrastructure projects in the wake of the pandemic.

"The pandemic has (hindered the ability of) countries to finance infrastructure projects. Because

of travel restrictions around the world, it will take longer for our people to visit the project sites," he added.

"Our bank is working hard to accelerate the process because we understand (the need for) timely support for countries in distress... Our financing for those countries, particularly to meet urgent needs, would be fully incorporated for our support for climate financing. The projects we financed were not just to relieve the country of momentary pressure and difficulty. We aim for long term solutions," he added. — **Luisa Maria Jacinta C. Jocson**



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Malaya Business Insight

B4
PAGE

UPPER
 LOWER

PAGE 1
STORY

BANNER
STORY

EDITORIAL

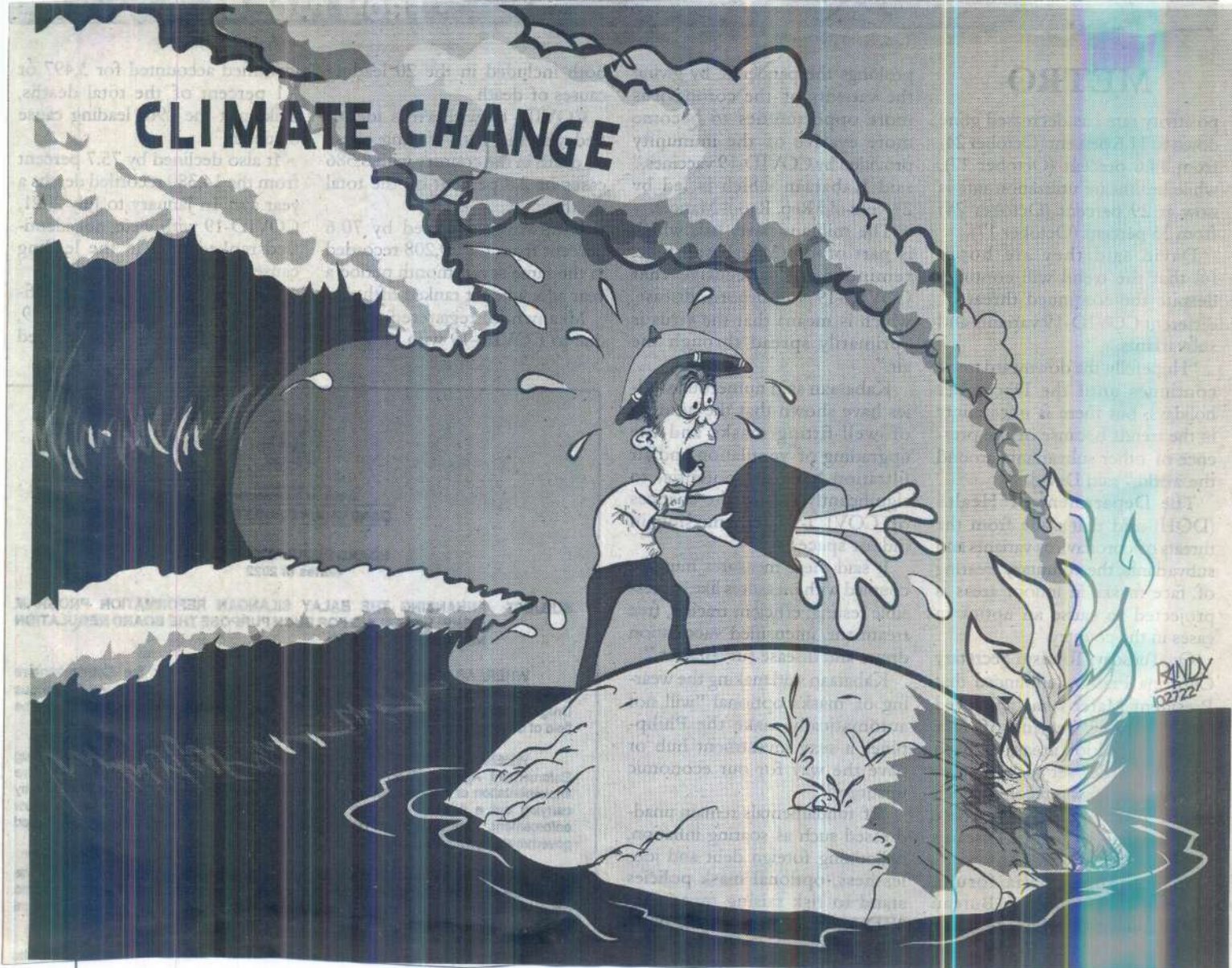
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TITLE:

PAGE

DATE





Revisiting agriculture:

There's a lot of work to be done

Some days back, we happened to narrate to an elder brother the serious health issues facing immediate relatives and deaths among classmates and friends. The new coronavirus variants were discussed thus effectively throwing a damper again on family reunion plans that would bring together older persons, middle-aged sons and daughters, and grade school-aged children.

A Filipino-American who lived for more than 40 years in California, this sibling earned his MBA in America, set up an extension of his residence, and managed a home for the aged with his wife. He was, while engaged in that entrepreneurial venture, the head of the tax accounting department of an international food service firm. He had proclaimed on several occasions that he is a card-carrying Republican who never voted for Donald Trump while branding Democrats as "bleeding-heart liberals." He had voted for Reagan as California governor. He did vote for Democrat Bill Clinton in 1992 and 1996. He was, in short, politically aware and not bound by party loyalties.

The conversation, which had by then stretched to more than 20 minutes, drifted to other topics on the home front and conflicts that had global impact: the supply chain issues created by the Russian invasion of Ukraine; inflation and North Korea's missile test launches, among others. At the end of the conversation, my sibling remarked, "There are too many problems. Too many things happening." That remark kept ringing in my ears for several days.

That conversation led us to reflect on the "many things happening." Out of the many critical sectors of the Philippine economy, agriculture and rural development have received more than

EARNING OUR TOMORROW PHILIP ELLA JUICO

its fair share of expert advice. We say this based on personal experience and exposure to the food and agriculture sector.

In 1973, some 49 years ago, we joined the then Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources (DANR) as a recruit of Secretary Arturo "Bong" R. Tanco, Jr., a graduate of the Asian Institute of Management (AIM), Harvard University, and Cornell University.

Tanco had just received the mandate from Ferdinand Marcos, Sr. to launch the ambitious rice self-sufficiency program called Masagana 99 (*masagana* means "bountiful" and 99 refers to the program's target yield in cavans of *palay* per hectare) a few months after Marcos declared Martial Law in September 1972. The strongman had just removed Vice-President Fernando Lopez as Secretary of DANR and appointed Undersecretary Tanco as Secretary. The government had swiftly taken over the Lopezes ABS-CBN TV network and power utility firm Meralco. The Vice-Presidency had been abolished in a sweeping revamp of all branches of government.

The problems then that faced the agriculture sector were production for self-sufficiency and marketing of rice, corn and feed grain, food prices, tenancy, land use, an underfunded extension service, lack of rural credit, fertilizer and pesticide availability and distribution, and the all too familiar inadequate irrigation systems.

A management man, Tanco had closely studied the variables of rice production and agribusiness in general. He had visited a Shell rice production program



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6
PAGE

UPPER
LOWER

PAGE 1
STORY

BANNER
STORY

EDITORIAL

CARTOON

70-27-22

DATE

TITLE: *Revisiting Agriculture...*

PAGE



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in Bulacan which Shell Philippines intended as a showcase for proper pesticide (a Shell product) use. But Shell added crucial ingredients to the experiment: irrigation (water being the single biggest factor credited with increases in production) which allowed the farm to harvest rice twice a crop year, supervised technical help from the extension workers of the then Bureau of Agricultural Extension (BAEX), who would periodically visit the participating farmers to dispense advice, supervised credit to finance working capital and production loans.

The experiment succeeded with great results: required farm inputs and financing came in at the time they were most needed and when technical help was available. Tanco reported to Marcos Sr. the success of Shell's supervised rice production program and it was decided to replicate it nationwide with the heavy involvement of local officials whose

tenure was at the pleasure of Marcos, just like everyone else.

Masagana 99 was launched in elaborate ceremonies at Malacañang with the diplomatic corps, including aid agencies well represented.

According to documented reports, the program did achieve self-sufficiency — but only for a few months. The first harvest saw almost an equilibrium between supply and demand. This was achieved, however, at great cost. Shortly after the initial success, reports of unpaid and fictitious loans reached the authorities regulating and supervising rural banks. Unscrupulous parties, most likely including BAEX technicians and local officials, had connived to come up with fictitious loan applications. There were documented instances of tricycle drivers and market vendors applying for loans endorsed by agricultural technicians.

Masagana 99 partly achieved its objective but it nearly ruined

the rural banking system. Now, there is an attempt to revive it. Hopefully, those who will run the new program will learn valuable lessons from that episode in Philippine rural banking history.

Going back to the Department of Agriculture (DA) in April 1986, two months after the EDSA People Power uprising, we immediately realized that while quite a number of names and faces had changed in the DA and the sector itself, the problems of 1973 were the same problems that needed to be addressed in 1986.

And now come heads of six agriculture-related coalitions identifying five imperatives in the paper "Towards an Effective AgriFisheries Multi-Year Plan" that, according to Agriwatch chair Ernie Ordoñez, was requested by the DA for submission to Congress. Ordoñez says that these are not addressed, our agriculture transformation "will not happen." The members of the coalition who provided inputs to the multi-year

plan were the Alyansa ng Agrikultura, the Philippine Chamber of Agriculture and Food, the Coalition for Agriculture Modernization in the Philippines, the Bayanihan Sa Agrikultura, the United Broiler Raisers Association of the Philippines, and the Movement for Water Security.

Essentially, the coalition says the following items are not sufficiently funded in the 2023 budget. Obviously, the group is saying these should be given more funds or forget about modernization of agriculture:

1. Establishing a market and business information system — producers need latest price movements and technological information to maximize returns

2. Single commodity production approach — the budget for a commodity system should consider the value chain and providing opportunities such as intercropping, processing and other income generating activities

3. Consolidation — economies of scale is needed but its implications on agrarian relationships have to be analyzed and anticipated

4. Agriculture planning — to further empower LGUs for a greater role in agriculture development

5. Proper budget use — "It would be a tragedy if much of the DA budget is lost to corruption." This does not need any further explanation.

Yes, many things are happening. There's a lot of work to be done. ■

PHILIP ELLA JUICO's areas of interest include the protection and promotion of democracy, free markets, sustainable development, social responsibility and sports as a tool for social development. He obtained his doctorate in business at De La Salle University. Dr. Juico served as secretary of Agrarian Reform during the Corason E. Aquino administration.





TITLE:



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Environment and Natural Resources
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**NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR
EXPLORATION PERMIT OF EMMANUEL-FT
MINING CORPORATION**

Notice is hereby given pursuant to Section 76 of Department of Environment and Natural Resource (DENR) Administrative Order (DAO) No. 2010-21, the Consolidated Implementing Rules and Regulations of Republic Act No. 7942, otherwise known as the Philippine Mining Act of 1995, that **Emmanuel-FT Mining Corporation** with address at **1610-A Singalong Street, Paco, Manila** has filed an application for Exploration Permit particularly described, as follows:

- I. Application No.** : EPA-IVA-176
II. Date of Filing : January 11, 2022
III. Area Location : Nasugbu, Province of Batangas

IV. Description of the Applied Area

A. Geographical Coordinates

CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE
1	14° 08' 00.00"	120° 39' 30.00"
2	14° 09' 00.00"	120° 41' 00.00"
3	14° 08' 30.00"	120° 41' 00.00"
4	14° 08' 30.00"	120° 41' 30.00"
5	14° 08' 00.00"	120° 41' 30.00"
6	14° 08' 00.00"	120° 42' 30.00"
7	14° 07' 00.00"	120° 42' 30.00"
8	14° 07' 00.00"	120° 43' 00.00"
9	14° 08' 30.00"	120° 43' 00.00"
10	14° 08' 30.00"	120° 42' 00.00"
11	14° 08' 00.00"	120° 42' 00.00"
12	14° 08' 00.00"	120° 41' 30.00"
13	14° 07' 30.00"	120° 41' 30.00"
14	14° 07' 30.00"	120° 41' 00.00"
15	14° 08' 00.00"	120° 41' 00.00"
16	14° 08' 00.00"	120° 39' 30.00"

Sketch Plan: Please refer to "Annex A"

Size: The applied area covers One Thousand Two Hundred Thirty Seven and 2071/10000 (1,237.2071 hectares) hectares.

B. Restrictions

The applied area shall be subject to Section 15 ("Areas Closed to Mining Applications"), Section 16 ("Ancestral Lands") and Section 105 ("Entry to Lands") of DAO No. 2010-21, and Section 4 of DAO No. 2012-07, as amended, which provide, among others, that:

- The following areas are closed to mining applications: areas covered by valid and existing mining rights/applications; old growth/virgin forests, proclaimed watershed forest reserves, protected areas and other areas expressly prohibited by law;
- The following areas shall also be closed to mining applications except upon written consent/prior clearance by the concerned government agency or private entity: areas near or under public or private buildings, cemeteries, archeological and historical sites, bridges, highways, waterways, railroads, reservoirs, dams and other infrastructure projects, public or private works, including plantations or valuable crops;
- In cases of areas occupied by Indigenous Peoples (IPs) and/or covered by Certificates of Ancestral Domain/Land Claims/Titles (CAD/CALC/CADT/CAL), the Free and Prior Informed Consent shall be secured from the concerned IPs;
- In cases of surface owners, occupants and concessionaires that may be covered by the applied area, their permission shall be obtained prior to entry into their lands by the eventual Permittee for purposes of undertaking sand and gravel extraction therein;
- Prime agricultural lands, in addition to land covered by RA No. 667 or the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Law of 1988, as amended, including plantations and areas devoted to valuable crops, and Strategic Agriculture and Fisheries Development Zones and fish refuge and sanctuaries declared as such by the Secretary of the Department of Agriculture;
- Tourism development areas, as identified in the national and local tourism development plans; and
- Other critical areas, island ecosystems, and impact areas of mining as determined by current and existing mapping technologies, that the DENR may hereafter identify pursuant to existing laws, rules, and regulations, such as, but not limited to, the National Integrated Protected Areas System.

V. Activities to be undertaken

Per the submitted Exploration Work Program the following activities will be conducted:

1. Research Work

The following aspects of research works shall be implemented prior to any exploration activities in the project area.

- Nature or Type of Study or Undertaking
Research shall be conducted on previous works and related studies done on the area by government geologist, both at the MGB Regional Office in City of Manila, and the MGB Head Office in Quezon City. Topographic maps, existing geologic maps, radar imagery and aerial photos which are

available at the NAMRIA Office and MGB shall also be compiled for further studies and interpretation.

- Data Compilation/Collation
All available data from concerned government and private entities shall be compiled and collated on the following aspects:

- Geophysical Data;
- Lithological Data;
- Mineralization/Alteration Studies;
- Various Thematic Maps covering the Target Area; and
- Detailed Cost Estimates.

2. Reconnaissance/Regional Survey or Studies

The reconnaissance geological survey will be conducted over the whole project area. Regional geologic mapping involves the delineation of the different rock type underlying the area and the identification of their contacts and geologic relationships. It also involves mapping and characterization of the different geological structures and features such as faults, joints, fractures and bedding planes.

Road/trail mapping and traverses along creek channels and on areas where noticeable rock exposures will be carried out. A 1:50,000 topographic map will be utilized as base map. A sampling density of around two (2) samples will be sent to the laboratory for chemical and/or petrographic analysis.

3. Semi-detailed Survey or follow up Studies

The semi-detailed geological survey shall cover areas that have been delineated by the reconnaissance geological survey as having the greatest potential of mineralization.

A hand auger drilling shall be conducted on 100-m grid for semi-detailed subsurface investigation. A total of 20 hand auger drill holes are expected to be developed. This activity will delineate potential areas within the applied area. Hand auger shall have an average depth of 8m per hole. Sample will be taken per meter. A total of 100 samples are expected to be logged and collated. Samples will be sent to the laboratory for chemical/petrographic analysis to qualitatively determine andesite, quarry resources, Au, Cu and base metals content.

4. Test Pitting

Test pitting and trenching shall be conducted in consonance with the detailed geologic mapping. This will involve the removal of the soil cover in order to probe the unexpected floats.

5. Topographic Survey

The topographic survey will be required for the planning, construction and development works and ore reserve calculations. The boundary survey will result in the ground delineation of the mining area with prominent marks and exclusions of the portions of the non-mineralized areas that will be relinquished.

The activities will include: 1) establishment of grid lines or pattern for geological mapping survey and subsurface investigation; 2) establishment of vertical and horizontal control baselines at various strategic areas of the proposed exploration site based from the cadastral and land survey control stations; 3) determination of the true geographic position, horizontal and vertical control and true elevation of mineralized areas and drill holes; 4) generation of topographic map for detailed surveys in scale of 1:2,000 to 1:5,000 with contour interval of 10m and 5) establishment of legal boundaries of the applied area.

6. Detailed Geological Mapping

Detailed geological mapping shall be concentrated on the area with the highest potential of andesite, quarry resources, aggregate and other metallic minerals such as gold, copper and silver as determined by the semi-detailed geologic survey. This activity will involve the mapping of geological features in a very detailed manner. It will include the recognition of detailed geological characteristics such as the soil profile zone areas and the occurrences of these mineralization in quartz vein areas and altered bedrock.

7. Drilling

A minimum of 5 drill holes will be covered using man-portable drill machine. NQ size at areas warranted for detailed follow-up. Essential targets area projected areas where big outcrops are identified, within and outside the main ore body. Man-portable drilling machine will be used for easier mobilization.

Any and all persons having adverse claims, protests and/or opposition to the subject application are hereby notified that their adverse claims, protests and/or opposition should be filed within ten (10) days from the last date of posting with the Mines and Geosciences Bureau (MGB) Regional Office (RO) No. IV-CALABARZON or through any Community Environment and Natural Resources Office or Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Office concerned for filing in the MGB RO No. IV-CALABARZON for purposes of its resolution by the Panel of Arbitrators pursuant to the provisions of R.A. No. 7942 and DAO No. 2010-21. Adverse claims, protest or opposition should be accomplished in accordance with Sections 203 and 204 of DAO No. 2010-21 and a copy thereof shall be furnished to the applicant by the adverse claimant.

For further particulars, please course your inquiries to the Regional Director, MGB RO No. IVA (CALABARZON) located at 8th floor, DENR by the Bay Building, 1515 Roxas Boulevard, Ermita, Manila.

DONDI W. SARMIENTO
Regional Director





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Republic of the Philippines
Department of Environment and Natural Resources
NATIONAL WATER RESOURCES BOARD
8th Floor NIA Bldg., EDSA, Diliman, Quezon City, Philippines 1100

**MT. VIEW SUBDIVISION WATER SERVICE
COOPERATIVE (MVS-WASECO),** Case No. 22-3450
Applicant.

NOTICE OF HEARING
This is an application for Certificate of Public Convenience to operate and maintain a waterworks system within Mt. View Subdivision, Barangay 3, Tanauan City, province of Batangas, with the following proposed rates:

PROPOSED TARIFF

Residential and Institutional

Pipe Size	0-5 m ³ (min)	6-10 m ³	11-20 m ³	21-30 m ³	31-40 m ³	Over 40 m ³
½"	P 120.00	24.30	25.20	26.40	28.80	32.40

Commercial and Industrial

Pipe Size	0-15 m ³ (min)	16-30 m ³	31-500 m ³	501-1000 m ³	Over 1000m ³
½"	P 721.50	50.50	52.90	57.70	64.90

This application will be initially heard by the Board on **21 November 2022**. The hearing will start at **9:00 o'clock in the morning** at the NWRB-WUD Conference Room, 8th Floor, NIA Building, EDSA, Quezon City, at which time applicant shall present its evidence.

At least fifteen (15) days prior to the scheduled hearing, applicant shall publish this notice once in a newspaper of general circulation in the province of **Batangas** and serve by personal delivery or registered mail a copy of the (i) application and its attachments, and (ii) this notice, to all affected parties appearing on page 2 hereof.

Parties opposed to the granting of the application must file their written opposition supported by documentary evidence on or before the above scheduled date of hearing, furnishing a copy of the same to the applicant.

Failure on the part of any person affected to file its opposition on time and to appear at the hearing will be construed as a waiver of their right to be heard. The Board will proceed to hear and decide the application based on the evidence submitted.

Likewise, failure by the applicant to appear at the hearing shall amount to lack of interest on its part and the instant application shall be dismissed accordingly.

Witness the Honorable Executive Director of the National Water Resources Board this 3rd day of October 2022.

By Authority of the Board:
Dr. SEVILLO, DAVID Jr., CESO III
Executive Director

Affected Parties:
The Secretary
Sangguniang Panlungsod, Tanauan City, Batangas
The Barangay Chairman
Barangay 3 Tanauan City, Batangas
The Homeowners Assn. President
Mt. View Subdivision, Barangay 3, Tanauan City, Batangas
The General Manager
Tanauan City Water District, Pres. Laurel Hi-way
Tanauan City, Batangas 4232


(REMATE: Oct.-27, 2022)L




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Department of Environment and Natural Resources
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT BUREAU
DENR Compound, Visayas Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City 1118
Tel No.: (02) 8539 4378
Website: www.emb.gov.ph Email: recordsco@emb.gov.ph



NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

On the **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT (EIS)** of the **MAALINAO-CAIGUTAN-BIYOG MINING PROJECT** of **MAKILALA MINING COMPANY, INC.** located in **BRGY. BALATOC, MUNICIPALITY OF PASIL, PROVINCE OF KALINGA, PHILIPPINES.**

Notice is hereby given to all parties who wish to give their opinion regarding the implementation of the **MAALINAO-CAIGUTAN-BIYOG MINING PROJECT** to attend the Public Hearing scheduled on:

Date	Time	Venue
04 November 2022 (Friday);	09:30 AM (Registration starts at 08:30 AM)	Pasil Municipal Gym, Amdalao, Pasil, Kalinga

The Public Hearing is being conducted in connection with the review of the EIS of the aforementioned project by the Environmental Management Bureau (EMB) of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR).

The following is the project information:

Project Name	Maalinao-Caigutan-Biyog Mining Project
Project Location	Brgy. Balatoc, Municipality of Pasil, Province Of Kalinga, Philippines.
Project Capacity	Mining: 4,500,000 MT/ yr Processing: 2,400,000 MT/yr
Project Type	Resource Extractive Industry; Extraction of Metallic Ores/ Minerals and Metallic Mineral or Ore Processing
Project Rationale	This Project endeavors to maximize the economic utility of the mineral resources in the Cordillera Administrative Region, while consequently spearheading the growth of the immediate locality through the inevitable socioeconomic development that is integral to any mineral development project. This includes increased taxes and royalties levied to the government, employment growth from mining-related activities and supporting industries (commerce) in the area, social development, and others. MMC's environmental and social development programs are also anticipated to have positive impacts on the community as required under various mining laws and regulations
Project components	<p>Major Components:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Underground Mining Area • Underground Magazine • Surface Magazine • Process Plant Buildings • Run off Mine Pad • Emulsion Plant • Waste Rock/ Topsoil Storage Facility • Internal Roads and Bridges • Paste Plant Buildings • Fresh water and Contact Water Dams <p>Support Facilities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General Admin Facilities • Emergency Power • Water Treatment Plant • Maintenance and Storage Facilities
Proponent	Makilala Mining Company, Inc

All interested parties who wish to attend or participate in this Public Hearing should preferably confirm their attendance/participation and may give their opinion(s) in a concise position paper to the **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT DIVISION (EIAMD)** of this Office through email at eia@emb.gov.ph, three (3) days before the Public Hearing schedule. Those who will not be able to register or submit written positions may be given the opportunity to share their issues on the day of the hearing itself.

The project's EIS and Executive Summary for the Public are downloadable on our website: (kindly access the [Notice of Public Hearing/ Consultation link found in our website](#)) while copies will be available in the following offices:

- **EMB CAR**
DENR Compound, Gibraltar Road, Baguio City
- **Municipal Environment and Natural Resources Office- Pasil**
Pasil Municipal Hall, Pasil, Kalinga

For more details, please contact the EIAMD Division at this Office at telephone number (02) 8539 4378 loc. 116 and look for the project case handlers **For. Mark Tuliao** and **Engr. Jason Paolo Esguerra**.

[Signature]

MT - Oct. 20 & 27, 2022